

Alphabeti

Spaghetti

Description:

activity page & craft that could tie in with lessons about India

Aim: to teach that different scripts are used in Bible translations

Audience:

child-ren grades 1-6, any size group

Time: 20 minutes

Equipment:

pencils, colored pens, scissors, gluesticks, copies of activity sheet, cardstock

Scripture to Study:

Psalms 119:130



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Leader's Instructions:**Pre-class Preparations:**

1. In advance, photocopy enough activity sheets for everyone to have their own copy.
2. Collect enough cardstock to cut out backings for each bookmark.

Class Time:

1. Hand out activity sheets and pens and explain the first activity:
 - Figure out the three words: *apple, orange and banana*
 - Figure out this sentence: *God's Word brings life.*
 - Write your own name in Devnagri Script.
2. Hand out scissors, glue sticks and cardstock and explain the second activity:
 - Color the bookmark.
 - Sign your name in Devnagri on the bookmark.
 - Cut out the bookmark.
 - Glue it onto the card stock.
3. Pray together for the Jirel people. Pray that many will come to know Jesus as they read the New Testament and that a strong Jirel Church will grow.

Discussion and Application:

1. Ask the children where they plan to keep the bookmark so as to use it for a reminder to pray for the Jirel people. (*perhaps in their own Bible or in the Bible the family uses for devotions at dinner?*) Then they can lead the whole family in praying for God's work around the world!
2. Be careful to point out the difference between what the children have written (which is English written in a foreign script) and the verse on the bookmark (which is a foreign language AND a foreign script). Otherwise they may try to decipher the 'code' on the bookmark when they get home and won't be able to.
3. The Devnagri script has been simplified for the purposes of this activity. Depending on where you live, there may well be children in the group who already know this script. If so, make the most of it! They may have specific prayer requests that add life and impact you never expected.

Here is the *Devnagri* alphabet. It looks a bit like spaghetti.

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A B C D E F G H I J K L M N
अ ब च ड ए फ ग ह इ ज क ल म न
O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
ओ प कउ र श ट उ व व कस य ज

Here are some English words written with Devnagri letters. Can you find out what they mean?

अ प प ल ए ओ र अ न ग ए ब अ न अ न अ

Devnagri letters are joined up together to make whole words. Each word looks like a clothes line with washing hanging on it. Here's a whole sentence. Can you work out what the message says?

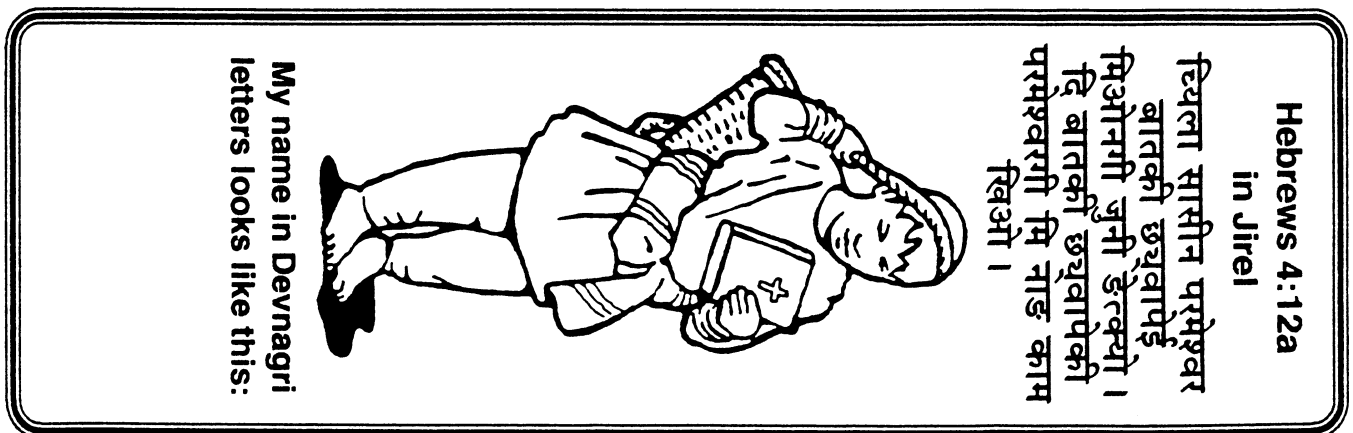
गओडश वओरड बरइनगश लइफए

Can you write your name in connected *Devnagri* letters?

Fact: The *Devnagri* script was first used to write the Hindu Scriptures. *Devnagri* means "the writing of the gods." Today this alphabet is used to write languages around North India.

Fact: The *Jirel* people of South Asia write their own language in the *Devnagri* script. Translators took 22 years to put the New Testament into the *Jirel* language. Now it has been published for the first time!

Here is a bookmark to color and keep:



To find out what this verse from the Jirel New Testament says, read Hebrews 4:12a.

Bible Color Book

Description:
a slight of hand
illusion

Aim: to teach the
need, process, and
do-ability of Bible
translation

Audience: Pre-
school through adult,
any size group

Time: 5 minutes.

Equipment:
Holy Bible Color
Book and Dummy*

Scripture to Study:
Psalm 119:129-136



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Leader's Instructions:

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PRE-CLASS PREPARATION:

1. Practice with the colored and blank books until you are confident.
2. The outside covers of the dummy and colored books look identical. To avoid a mix-up, make a tiny black pen mark on one letter of the blank book's cover. That way you'll know which one you have without flipping through the pages to check.
3. Be sure to have a box or bag nearby so you can toss the colored version in, and pull out the blank one to let others try. No one should see that you have two different versions of the book.

CLASS TIME:

1. (Hold up the colored version.) How many of you have seen one of these before? Raise your hands. What is it? Raise your hand if you know the answer. How many of you have ever read or heard the story of Jesus? It comes from the Bible doesn't it?
2. This is a really surprising little book. You'll have to watch carefully now! In this book right here, I have the Bible in over 2,000 languages. Can you believe it? (Flip the pages from the bottom, front to back, showing blank pages.) This is what the Bible looks like in more than 2,000 languages around the world! What's the matter? The pages are blank? That's right. Today, there are still over 2,000 language groups without a Bible they can read. We call these groups without the Bible "Bibleless people groups."
3. (Drop the book to your side.) What can we do about that? Lots of people say, "We already have the Bible in English. Why don't we just go and teach everyone to read English. Then they could read the Bible and learn about Jesus." That sounds like an easy solution, but really it's not. Even if they wanted to learn to read English, and they did learn some...
4. (Flip the pages from the top, front to back, showing black & white pages.) ...it would be like a coloring book without color. They would only get a sketchy idea of what the Bible was saying, kind of like a black and white drawing.
5. (Drop the book to your side again.) That's why Wycliffe workers go to live with Bibleless people all around the world. They learn a new language and culture, become part of a local team, and then together with the local people decide on a good alphabet, and translate the Bible into that language.
6. Then when people read their brand new Bible, (Flip the pages from the middle, front to back, showing colored pages.) it comes alive, in full, living color, just like it is for you and me!
7. (Drop the book to your side.) But wait a minute! Something's missing here. Just because someone translates the Bible, does that mean everyone can read it? Many languages weren't ever written down until Bible translation began in them.
8. (Flip the pages from the middle, back to front, showing blank pages.) They had no books, no road signs, no labels on their clothes. So the Bible still

Notes:

looks like this for them.

9. (Drop the book to your side again.) What do they need? That's right! They need to learn how to *read*.
10. So, in order for the Bible to be full of color and meaning, (Flip the pages from the top, back to front, showing color.), Bibleless people must take the important step and learn to read.
11. Do you want to know how this book works? Well, there *is* a method. Believe me, it's *not* magic. If you know the method, the book works. It's just like Bible translation. That may seem a little mysterious and hard to do too. But translators take classes to learn scientific methods of studying languages, creating alphabets, and translating the Bible. Once you know the methods and use them, it's not impossible any more. And when you're done, Bibleless people will be able to read and understand God's Word for themselves.
12. Lead the group in a prayer time, each one asking God how He wants them involved in getting the Bible to people who still wait.

TIPS FOR THE TEACHER:

- Dropping the book to your side between flipping pages avoids the obvious secret that you are moving your thumb up and down!
- After your presentation, a student may ask you how the book works. Only tell them if you fear they suspect you of the 'sin of using magic.' Giving away the secret will spoil the illusion for subsequent opportunities you may have to use this graphic example. Amazingly, your audience will watch you more closely *throughout the entire lesson*, perhaps to see if you have any more tricks up your sleeve!
- Leave the blank book lying around for children to "happen upon." With a smaller group, you could even pass the dummy around after you've finished the presentation with the real one, and go right on with the rest of your lesson while it's being passed.

*These resources can be ordered from Wycliffe Canada's online store at www.wycliffe.ca/store/book_kids.html or by calling 1-800-463-1143, ext. 283. The book with colored and black and white pages is called *Bible Novelty Colouring Book*.

Desert Dwellers' Tea Time

Description: a cross-cultural tea-tasting session along with admirable cultural insights, plus an activity page

Aim: multicultural education

Audience: preschool - college, any size class with enough helpers

Time: 10-15 minutes

Equipment: thermoses to fill with tea, small cups, paper towels, crayons

Scripture to Study:



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Leader's Instructions:

Pre-class Preparations:

1. Brew strong tea (decaffeinated if preferred). Combine three parts tea with one part milk. (Make one portion with "milk substitute" if any students are lactose intolerant.) Add sugar until it tastes too sweet! Stir in 1/8 to 1/4 teaspoon liquid smoke flavor for each quart of finished tea. (Try Wright's Natural Hickory Seasoning or other brands. Strengths may vary. Add just enough so you detect a smoky flavor that's not overpowering.)
2. Copy workpages for your students and collect crayons.
3. Serve beef jerky, too, for a fuller snack. With no refrigeration or canning, nomadic herders make a staple of dried meat.

Class Time:

1. Divide the children into boys' and girls' groups and have them sit like proper desert-dwelling nomads. Girls sit on the floor (or ground) with legs together, straight out in front of them, toes pointed to the sky. Boys squat on their haunches, feet flat on the floor, arms extended in front with elbows resting on knees. (Those boys who can't keep their balance may sit cross-legged so as not to spill their tea!)
2. Pass out tea to all the boys first, in order from the eldest to the youngest, and then to the girls from eldest to youngest. (If grown men are present, serve them first as a sign of honor.)
3. On a map or globe point out East Africa and Kenya.
4. While everyone drinks, explain to them about their tea:

Many desert-dwelling nomads in East Africa drink tea. Imagine that! Out there herding camels and goats, but stopping for a 'spot of tea!' You see, years ago the British people grew huge tea plantations in Kenya and surrounding areas. In fact, even after Kenya became independent in 1963, they continued to grow some of the world's finest tea. While Americans usually drink iced tea, or hot tea with a little sugar or lemon, the British drink theirs with lots of cream and sugar.

So, naturally when the nomadic herders began drinking tea, they put in milk, too! Milk and meat form their main traditional diet. And sugar! Who can pass up a new treat like sugar? Do you taste a little smoky flavor in your tea? Does it remind you of sausage?

That's because the nomads store their milk in wooden gourds. They have no disinfectants, like bleach, to sterilize the milk gourds, and not much soap and water for washing things. But when milk gets old inside a gourd, you need to be able to clean it out, right? What clever idea do you think the nomadic herders came up with? What's another thing that can kill bacteria and sterilize things?

That's right...fire! Nomadic people take hot, burning coals from the fire. With split-wood tongs, they drop the coals inside the gourd, close the lid tightly, and shake and shake and shake! The inside of the gourd becomes very hot, all the bacteria die, and the next milk will go into a safe gourd. That's why their milk tastes smoky. Smoky and safe! Would you have ever thought of that? We can learn many amazing survival techniques for living in a harsh environment from different people around the world!

We can also learn hospitality from East African herders today. Though they have little, by American standards, still they give generously to guests. Look at Genesis 18:1-8. Nomadic herders in sub-Saharan Africa today welcome guests with as much excitement and hospitality as Abraham did long ago!

Additional Activities:

- Read some exciting adventure stories about children living in East Africa. *The Village Safari*, *The Hunting Safari* and *The Canoeing Safari* by T. J. Matthews are available at www.wycliffe.ca/store/book_kids.html or by calling the Media Resource Office at 1-800-463-1143, ext. 283.
- Take your children on a “virtual tour” of the International Museum of Cultures at www.internationalmuseumofcultures.org/home.htm
- Get involved with a current Bible translation project by contacting The Seed Company. See their website at www.theseedcompany.org
- Contact Wycliffe's prayer department to learn how you can pray long-term for a group until they receive a Bible in their own language. Go to www.wycliffe.org and click on the **Prayer** button.

Notes:

If students are unfamiliar with gourds, show them the picture of a wooden gourd like this one on page four.

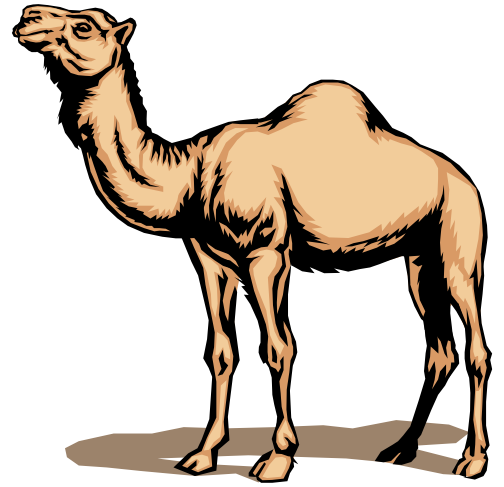


Draw a picture of these East African events you learned about

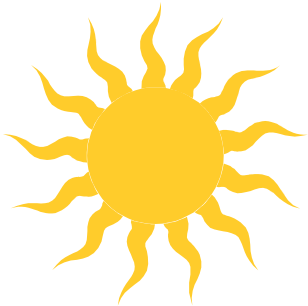
Cleaning the milk gourd:



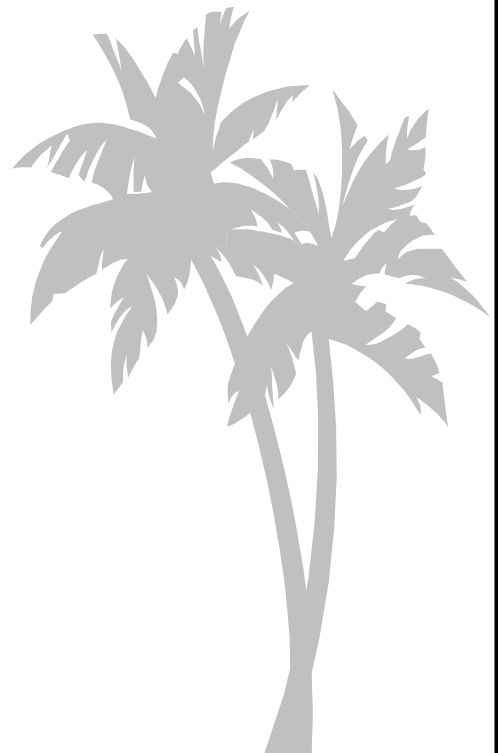
Walking away with a gourd of camel's milk:



Welcoming tired travelers to stop and rest:



Visitors sitting to drink tea with their hosts:





Global Graffiti

Description:

participants write and draw on a world map

Aim: to focus on the world and options for global involvement

Audience: grades 1-6, any size group

Time: 20-30 minutes

Equipment: large outline of the world (example provided); photocopied cards; pens, crayons or chalk; pictures of people your church supports; atlas



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Leader's Instructions:

Pre-class Preparations:

1. Draw a large outline of the world on a piece of paper. It needs to be big enough for all participants to gather around it, but does not have to be detailed or exact. For younger children you may want to add names of continents or some countries. Use the World Map on page two as a guide. (For easy enlargement, project it on the wall where you've hung your paper. Make it as large as you like!)
2. Photocopy enough cards for every participant to have at least one. Optional: Fill in information about families the church supports on cards 37-42. Have an atlas or world map available for reference.

Class Time:

1. Give participants a card as they arrive, and invite them to write and draw what the card says on the map. If there are very young children playing, make sure you give them age-appropriate cards.
2. As they complete their tasks, give them another card. The cards with an asterisk (*) can be used more than once. After 15-20 minutes, invite participants to sit down. Bring the map up to the front and have volunteers hold it up so that everyone can see it. (If using blacktop, sit around the outer edges.) Use the Discussion and Application section below to highlight the theme of serving Jesus overseas.

Discussion and Application:

1. Begin by talking about the map and asking the children questions about what they have drawn. Has anyone learned something new?
2. Read Psalm 67:1-2 together and ask, "Why does God bless us?" (See verse 2! We're blessed to be a blessing to others.)
3. Present a challenge to the group in the following way: The game focuses on the world beyond our own front doorstep. God has a plan for the whole world. The game reminds us that God doesn't want us to just stand by and be spectators. He uses His people to fulfill His plans, and wants us to be involved. How involved are you in blessing the world? Be sure to take time to pray for your church's global ambassadors. (Also see "Projects to Do", another *Bright Ideas!* lesson, available at www.wycliffe.ca/resources/children_ministry_resources.html)
4. Optional: If weather permits, draw the map in chalk on cement or asphalt outside.

World Map Example



CARD 1

Draw a large monster in the Atlantic Ocean, and color in the water around it.

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CARD 2★

Draw the outline of any country and label it.

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CARD 3

Draw the Great Wall of China and label it.

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CARD 4★

Write the name of a place you'd like to visit, and draw yourself on vacation there.

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CARD 5★

Write in the name of a continent.

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CARD 6

Draw three dolphins in the Indian Ocean, and color in the water around them.

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CARD 7★

Write the names of three large cities in Asia.

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**CARD 8**

Draw a great white shark off the coast of South Africa, and color in the water around it.

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**CARD 9**

Draw the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Australia, and label it.

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**CARD 10**

Draw the Swedish flag in Sweden.

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**CARD 11★**

Write the name of an ocean or sea, and color in part of it.

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**CARD 12**

Draw Mount Kilimanjaro with you standing on the top, and label it.

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CARD 13★

Draw a ship anywhere on the ocean, and color in the water around it.

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CARD 14

Draw a polar bear standing on the North Pole.

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CARD 15★

Write the name of a desert, and draw camels and palm trees in it.

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CARD 16

Draw a trawler catching cod off Iceland, and color in the sea around it.

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CARD 17

Draw the Nile River, and label it.

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CARD 18★

Write in the names of three countries beginning with P.

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CARD 19

Draw the equator, and label it.

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CARD 20★

Draw a bit of jungle in a place where you might find one.

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CARD 21★

Draw a herd of elephants where you might find them.

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CARD 22

Draw a flock of birds migrating south for the winter.

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CARD 23

Label the South Pole, and draw a colony of penguins there.

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CARD 24

Label Timbuktu, and draw a signpost to it 1,000 miles to the east.

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CARD 25★

Write the names of three capital cities in South America.

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CARD 26

Draw a large Canadian flag to fill up the whole of Canada.

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CARD 27

Mark the River Ganges, and draw Hindus bathing in it.

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CARD 28★

Draw flames in a place where there is political conflict or war.

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CARD 29★

Draw a mountain range, and write its name beside it.

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CARD 30

Label the Panama Canal, and draw a ship going through it.

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CARD 31

Label Paris, and draw the Eiffel Tower.

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CARD 32★

Draw a tiger where you might find one.

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CARD 33

Draw a volcano erupting in the Philippines.

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CARD 34

Label Egypt, and draw pyramids there.

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CARD 35

Draw an airplane on its way from O'Hare Airport to Rio de Janeiro.

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CARD 36

Label Mecca, and draw crowds of people on pilgrimage there.

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CARD 37

Draw our missionaries
_____,
in _____,
doing their work.

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CARD 38

Draw our missionaries
_____,
in _____,
doing their work.

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CARD 39

Draw our missionaries
_____,
in _____,
doing their work.

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CARD 40

Draw our missionaries
_____,
in _____,
doing their work.

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CARD 41

Draw our missionaries
_____,
in _____,
doing their work.

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CARD 42

Draw our missionaries
_____,
in _____,
doing their work.

Global Graffiti
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Heavenly Banquet

Description: a team game to play before snack or meal time

Aim: illustrate need for Bible translation teams

Audience: Primary through high school, 8 or more participants

Time: 10-15 min.

Equipment: 2 pencils, 2 scissors, 2 pieces of paper, plus a 'banquet table' of very kid-desirable foods

Scriptures to Study:
Romans 10:8-15, Rev 5:9 and 7:9,10



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Leader's Instructions:

Pre-class Preparations:

1. Write the following instructions on a card. Team One: "When I say 'Go,' work together. Draw a large picture of a key and cut it out of this paper. The first team to bring me their key wins!"
2. Write the following instructions on a second card. Team Two: "When I say 'Go,' work together. It won't be easy, but do your best to figure out how to win the banquet table! The first team to bring me the right answer wins."
3. Pile a table high with mouth-watering treats like grapes, plums, strawberries, kiwi, watermelon and cherries. Or, if you dare, display tempting cookies, muffins, ice cream and potato chips. If it is near meal time, how about a pizza buffet? Decide what is most heavenly to your kids, and okay with parents.

Class time:

1. Make sure everyone gets to admire the table from a short distance.
2. Divide the children into three groups: *Team One*, *Team Two*, and the *Cheering Section*.
3. Be sure the two teams are separated as much as possible. Distribute pencils, scissors and paper to Team One and Team Two. Positioning the cheering section to be able to watch all that goes on.
4. Explain that the winning team and the cheering section will get to enjoy the goodies on the table.
5. Quietly give the instruction cards to the proper teams, and instruct both teams to be careful not to let the other team see their instructions. Tell them not to begin until you say "Go."
6. Then instruct the Cheering Section to clap, yell and generally encourage whichever team seems to have the most trouble.
7. Start the contest by saying, "Go!"
8. At the end of the contest, reveal the differing instructions by having someone from each team read their instructions.

Discussion and Application:

1. **Ask the children**, “What was unfair about this contest?”

Read Revelation 19:9. Explain, “In real life some people, like Team One, have the instructions about how to get to the great banquet table in heaven. They have the key! Others, like Team Two, do not! They haven’t heard in their own language that Jesus died for their sins. They will miss out on the banquet unless someone tells them in a way that they can understand.”

2. **Ask**, “Where do people find this information?” (*in the Bible*).

Ask them for specific verses to explain salvation. (e.g. John 3:16) “But,” **tell them**, “millions and millions of people do not have these instructions in a language they can understand. Why? They don’t have the Bible in a language they can read. God wants us to tell everyone how to get to His great banquet table in heaven. How can you help? Ask God if you should pray, give or go so that others can have a Bible too!” **Pray now, thanking God that we have the Bible in our language, which explains how to know God personally through Jesus Christ. Ask Him to reveal to each child how they can help make it possible for more people to enjoy that same privilege.**

3. **Ask**, “Is there anyone on Team One who will help these poor, drooling members of Team Two? Would you share your key? Is there enough to share? Is it the right thing to do?” **One child should volunteer to take the key and the instructions to Team Two. Make the connection between that act and what God is doing around the world today through His servants.**

4. Once Team 2 has followed the directions, *everyone* can sit down to the feast!

Closing Song: *His Banner Over Me Is Love* (He feeds me at His banqueting table . . .)

Notes:

In 1 Ear, Out the Other

Description: a game contrasting participants who pass a whispered and a written message

Aim: to illustrate the importance of having God's Word in your own written language

Audience:
children grades
1-6, minimum 10
participants

Time: 10 minutes

Equipment:
pen and paper;
optional slide,
transparency or poster
of Romans 5:8

Scripture to Study:
Romans 5:8,
2 Chronicles 34:14-33



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Leader's Instructions:

Pre-class Preparations:

1. On a small piece of paper write this: "God wants everyone in the world to know how much He loves them.

Pass this paper to the next child in the row after you whisper the message to them. Don't let the children in the other rows see this paper."

2. Optional: prepare a PowerPoint slide, overhead transparency, poster, white or black board of Romans 5:8

Class Time:

1. Have the children sit in rows with a minimum of two rows with equal numbers in each row*.
2. Explain that because this game has lots of whispering, everyone must be very quiet. Only those passing the message are allowed to speak. Explain that you are going to send a message down each of the rows, to see if the same message reaches the other end. When the person on the opposite end receives the message they must stand up in their place to show that they have finished.
3. Start at the far end of each row and whisper this message to the person on the end: "God wants everyone in the world to know how much He loves them."
4. When you get to the back row, explain to the one on the end that their message is going to be passed in a *different* way. Whisper the message, but also give them the written message to read. Tell them not to let the rows in front of them see the paper, but secretly read it and pass it down the line as they whisper.
5. When you have given the message to each of the rows, return to the front and wait for the message to be passed down to the opposite end. When a child is standing at the end of each row, ask each one, starting in front, what the message was that they received.
6. Now use the Discussion and Application Section below to explain why you've played the game.

Discussion and Application:

1. Only those on the back row got the message right. Do you know why? It's because they were asked to play the game a little

differently. They not only whispered the message to each other, they had it written down as well! (“No fair”, the children protest? Hmm, that’s just like real life for over 2,000 language groups around the world! They don’t have the Bible written in their language. They just have to remember what someone told them. Is that fair?)

2. If you pass a message by word of mouth, it changes more and more as it gets passed on. The message you end up with is *not* the message that started out. But when the message is written down, and especially if it’s in the language you understand best, then the last person will get the same message as the first.
3. It’s like that with the Bible. The Bible is the book that tells us that “God wants everyone in the world to know how much He loves them.” It’s an important message and we can understand and trust it because it’s written down in our own language.
4. Ask someone to read out Romans 5:8, or show the one you have prepared, and discuss it.
5. Around the world there are still millions of people who have never heard, in their own language, the message of God’s love for them. Wycliffe Bible Translators believes that this message is more important than anything else on earth. They want everyone around the world to have a translation of God’s Word that they can understand well!
6. It’s a big job and translators can’t do it alone. God wants all His people to team up and reach the world with His Good News. How can you help? You can pray and give. Could you write letters, or e-mails, to encourage people who are doing translation work? Could you go on a short-term trip with your parents? How about studying a foreign language as one of your classes? Take time to pray and ask God what He wants you to do to help get His message all around the world.

*This activity works particularly well in a school assembly where children are seated in rows, with the youngest at the front and the oldest at the back. The youngest ones will not be able to remember such a long message, but will enjoy the activity anyway. The older ones will be able to read well and keep their paper “cheat sheet” a secret!

Notes:

It's Not Impossible

Description:

Choose one of three seemingly-impossible stunts with simple solutions

Aim: to capture attention, then give an application related to global service

Audience: primary through adults, any size group

Time: 10-15 min.

Equipment:
2 paper clips, \$1 bill

Scriptures to Study:

1 Timothy 6:10,
Matthew 28:19 (the Great Commission, not the Great Optional Activity!)



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Paper Clip Link-Up

- 1. Set the scene with this introduction:** Translating the Bible into an unwritten language might seem impossible at first. Just think: a language that's never been written. Where would you begin? No paper, no pencils, no books, no alphabet! And lots of different sounds, maybe even more sounds than English! Could you do it? It's a lot like trying to link two paper clips while not touching them. How so, you ask?
- 2. Throw out the challenge:** (Hold up 2 paper clips and a \$1 bill.) Who would volunteer to come help with this demonstration? Keep the dollar if you can link these two paper clips while not touching or holding them. Specifically, you must stop touching the clips and then link them together. While you are actually linking them together, you may not touch or hold them. Do not use the bill as gloves, either! You have 3 minutes. Go!
- 3. Allow one or more volunteers to try.** Large groups use 2 teams.
- 4. Demonstrate that it can be done:** Fold the bill in thirds. Place clips on opposite sides of the bill, as illustrated on page 2. Each one clips the outer cut corner to the nearest inner sheet. Grasp the ends of the bill and slowly pull the ends in opposite directions. Surprisingly, the paper clips link up!

Discussion and Application:

So now do you see why translating the Bible into an unwritten language is like trying to link two paper clips without touching them? It's not impossible, if you just know how! Translators with Wycliffe Bible Translators take college classes to learn how to translate the Bible. They learn to make every sound possible to the human speech system and how to write each one down using the International Phonetic Alphabet. They also study different cultures and how to fit in with them, how to teach people to read, and how to survive in an isolated area, just to name a few.

How about you? How does God want *you* to be involved in getting His Word to those who still wait? Could you pray, give, or go? Let's pray and ask God what He wants each of us to do.

If using this for a lead-in, introduce one of the workpages or activities listed on page two. Or launch into a different lesson.

Pictures Demonstrating How It's Done

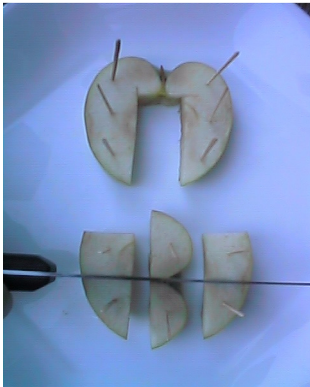
Paper Clip Link-Up



Don't Get Wet!



Cut the Apple



Notes:

Additional Workpages for Children:

(available at www.wycliffe.ca/resources/children_ministry_resources.html)

1. "Did You Know?" using the International Phonetic Alphabet
2. "What Does it Mean When . . .?" matching puzzling behavior with the message it conveys
3. "Desert Riddle" a riddle and coloring page
4. "May I Have a Snack, Mom?" unscrambling words for surprising snacks eaten in faraway lands
5. "Alphabetti Spaghetti" another *Bright Ideas!* activity to learn about the Devnagri script and make a bookmark
6. "International Radio Operator's Alphabet" practice speaking in code, plus a string-and-can phone project
7. "Desert Dweller's Tea Time" another *Bright Ideas!* activity to learn taste-testing in a culturally appropriate manner, plus how to sterilize your wooden milk gourd without soap, water, or disinfectant

Description:

a seemingly impossible stunt with a simple solution

Aim: to capture attention, then give an application related to global service

Audience: primary through adult, any size group

Time: 10-15 minutes

Equipment: a plastic glass or tumbler filled 2/3 full with water; a plate or saucer that fits tightly over the mouth of the glass; extra water, an absorbent bath towel; a brave heart!

Scriptures to Study:



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Don't Get Wet!

- 1. Practice ahead of time to avoid getting drenched!**
- 2. Set the scene with this introduction while filling the glass and placing the plate on top:** Translating the Bible into an unwritten language might seem impossible at first. Just think for a minute about a language that's never been written. Where would you begin? No paper, no pencils, no books, no alphabet! And lots of different sounds, maybe even more sounds than English! Could you do it? It's like trying to drink the water out of this glass using only one hand. How so, you ask?
- 3. Throw out the challenge as you flip the glass upside-down, keeping plate and glass pressed firmly together:** Who will volunteer to come help with this demonstration? Your job is to drink water from the glass using only one hand. Keep the other at your side. You have 3 minutes. Go!
- 4. Allow one or more volunteers to try.** Large groups use 2 teams.
- 5. Demonstrate that it can be done:** 1) Hold the plate and glass of water in your hand and bend your head over until your forehead touches the bottom of the glass. 2) Keeping the plate pressed firmly to the glass, and the glass pressed firmly to the forehead, stand erect with your head tilted back far enough to balance the glass on it. 3) Remove the plate and drop or set it down. Then remove the glass with the same hand and drink the water. (*Or lie down flat on your back, balancing the glass on your stomach if you dare!*)

Discussion and Application:

So, now do you see why translating the Bible into an unwritten language is like trying to drink water from the cup with only one hand? In each case it's not impossible, if you just know how! Translators with Wycliffe Bible Translators take college classes to learn how to translate the Bible. They learn to make every sound possible to the human speech system and how to write each one down using the International Phonetic Alphabet. They also study different cultures and how to fit in with them, how to teach people to read, and how to survive in an isolated area, just to name a few.

How about you? How does God want *you* to be involved in getting His Word to people who still wait? Could you pray, give or go? Let's pray and ask God what He wants each of us to do.

If using this for a lead-in, introduce one of the workpages or activities listed on page two. Or launch into a different lesson.

Description:

a seemingly-impossible stunt with a simple solution

Aim: to capture attention and then make mission application

Audience: primary through adult, any size group

Time: 10-15 minutes

Equipment: an apple or pear cut as shown; a knife; six toothpicks; a plate, cutting board or paper towel

Scriptures to Study:

Matthew 28:19



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Cut the Apple

- 1. Set the scene with this introduction:** Translating the Bible into an unwritten language might seem impossible at first. Just think: a language that's never been written. Where would you begin? No paper, no pencils, no books, no alphabet! And lots of different sounds, or maybe even more sounds than English!! Could you do it? It's a lot like trying to divide this apple slice into six pieces with only two cuts of the knife. How so, you ask?
- 2. Throw out the challenge:** (Hold up the horseshoe shaped slice of fruit for everyone to see.) Who would volunteer to come help with this demonstration? You can eat the apple if you can cut it into six equal pieces with only two cuts of the knife. Each piece must contain a toothpick. You have three minutes. Go!
- 3. Allow one or more volunteers to try.** Large groups use two teams
- 4. Demonstrate that it can be done:** Cut number 1, as shown on page two: Make a horizontal cut, detaching the top portion of the horseshoe. Lay that strip vertically between the two side pieces. Cut number two: Slice between the top and bottom toothpicks of all three pieces and there you have six chunks!

Discussion and Application:

So now do you see why translating the Bible into an unwritten language is like trying to divide the apple into six pieces with only two cuts? It's not impossible, if you just know how! Translators with Wycliffe Bible Translators take college classes to learn how to translate the Bible. They learn to make every sound possible to the human speech system and how to write each one down using the International Phonetic Alphabet. They also study different cultures and how to fit in with them, how to teach people to read, and how to survive in an isolated area, just to name a few.

How about you? How does God want *you* to be involved in getting His Word to people who still wait? Could you pray, give or go? Let's pray now and ask God what He wants each of us to do.

If using this for a lead-in, introduce one of the workpages or activities listed on page two. Or launch into a different lesson.

Make it Snappy

Description:

a game that teaches children about different facets of words

Aim: to show one part of producing an accurate translation

Audience: children grades 1-6, any size group

Time: 15-20 min.

Equipment:

sets of snap cards, for each group of 3 players you need 6 sets of cards, or use one set of huge cards for combined game

Scripture to Study:

Isaiah 1:18



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Leader's Instructions:

Before class, make up sets of cards. Use cardstock, or laminate over regular paper. Make it simple by laminating the whole sheet first and then cutting it into six individual cards. Play the game yourself ahead of time. Store the cards in your library for years of use. For each group of three players, you need six sets of cards, (six copies of each page). Masters for huge cards are also included if you prefer to play as one consolidated group in an auditorium or classroom.

Introduction:

The Kouya people in Cote d'Ivoire, Africa, have no word for snow in their language. So every time the word 'snow' crops up, translators Philip and Heather have to decide which is the most important idea to get across: what it *looks like*—white and flaky, or what it *does*—falls from the sky. (Linguists call this *form and function*.) Once they've decided that, they'll be able to translate a good meaning for snow.

Let's look at Isaiah 1:18. (Someone read it aloud.) So, tell me, why do you think God used snow here? Because of what it *looks like* or what it *does*? Yes, because of its looks—it is pure white, and that's how completely God forgives our sins.

In Kouya, Isaiah 1:18 may come out as "your sins will be as white as the inside of a coconut". Why do you suppose the translators chose that instead? Yes, because the people have lots of coconuts and the insides are the purest white, plus they've never seen snow!

To Play:

1. Seat players in a row so that everyone can see the cards.
2. One player deals out three equal piles face down.

At the same time, all players turn over one card and lay it in front of them. A snap occurs when any two cards from the same set are face up. For instance, + or



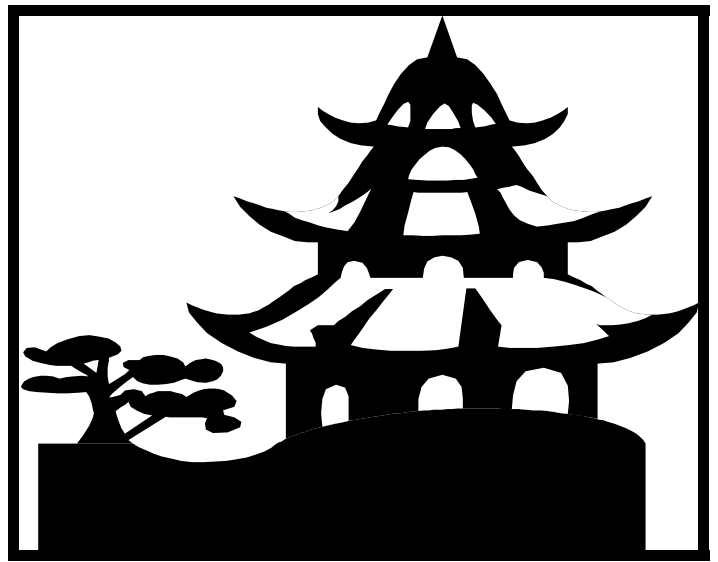
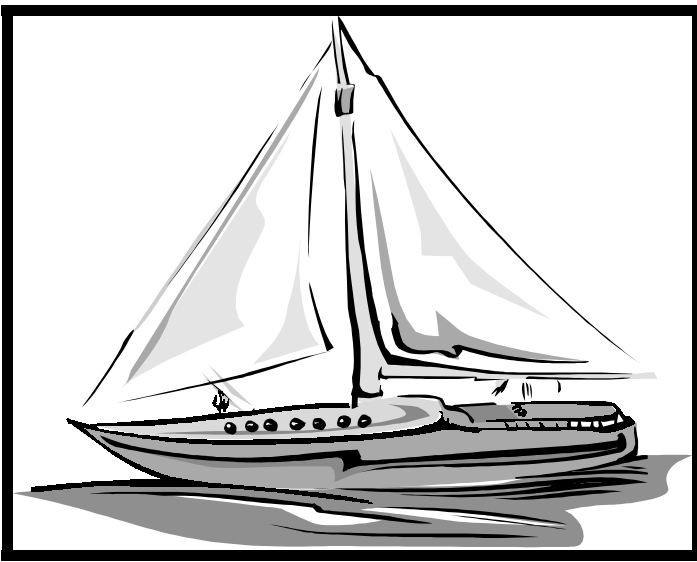
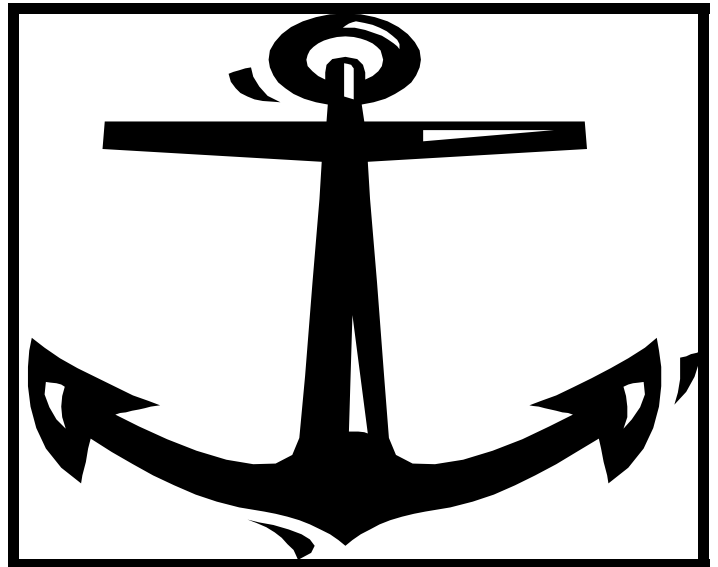
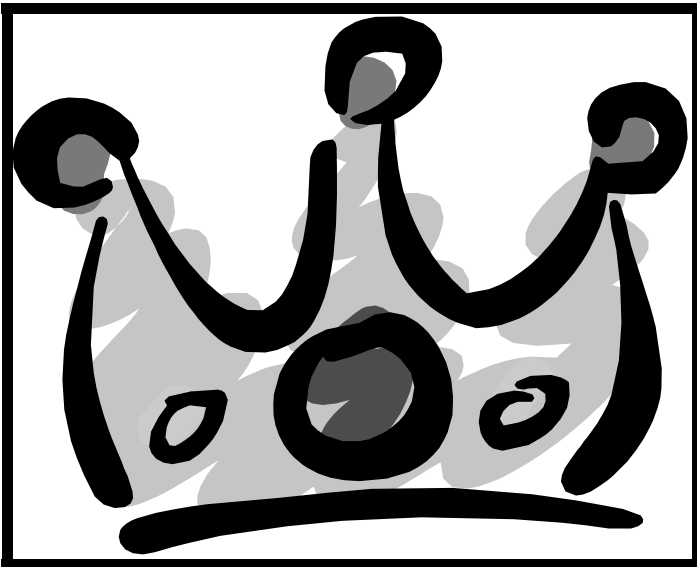
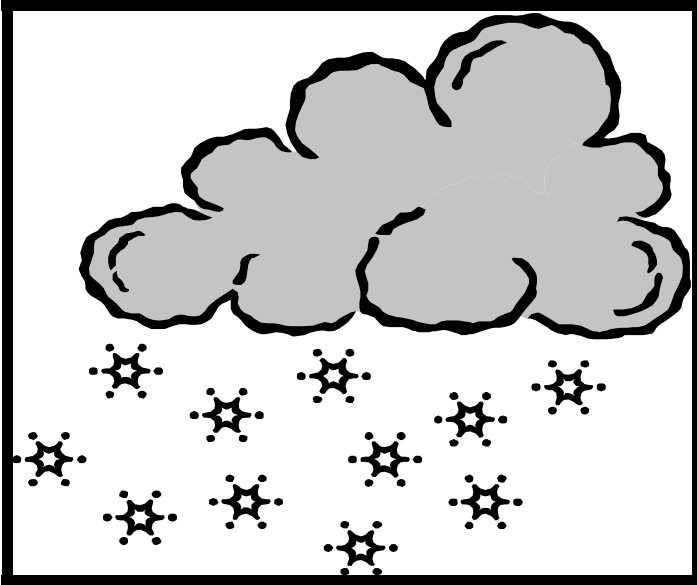
white
cold
and flaky

falls from
the sky
in winter

Whoever shouts "Snap"
first, wins all the cards in

those two piles. Keep playing until someone wins all the cards.

Prayer time: Pray for Bible translators. Pray that they'll make good choices about which words to use in every situation.



white
cold
and flaky

a wooden
farm
building

a golden
head-
piece

a heavy
metal
hook

vessel with
oars, sail
or engine

a place to
worship
idols

falls from
the sky
in winter

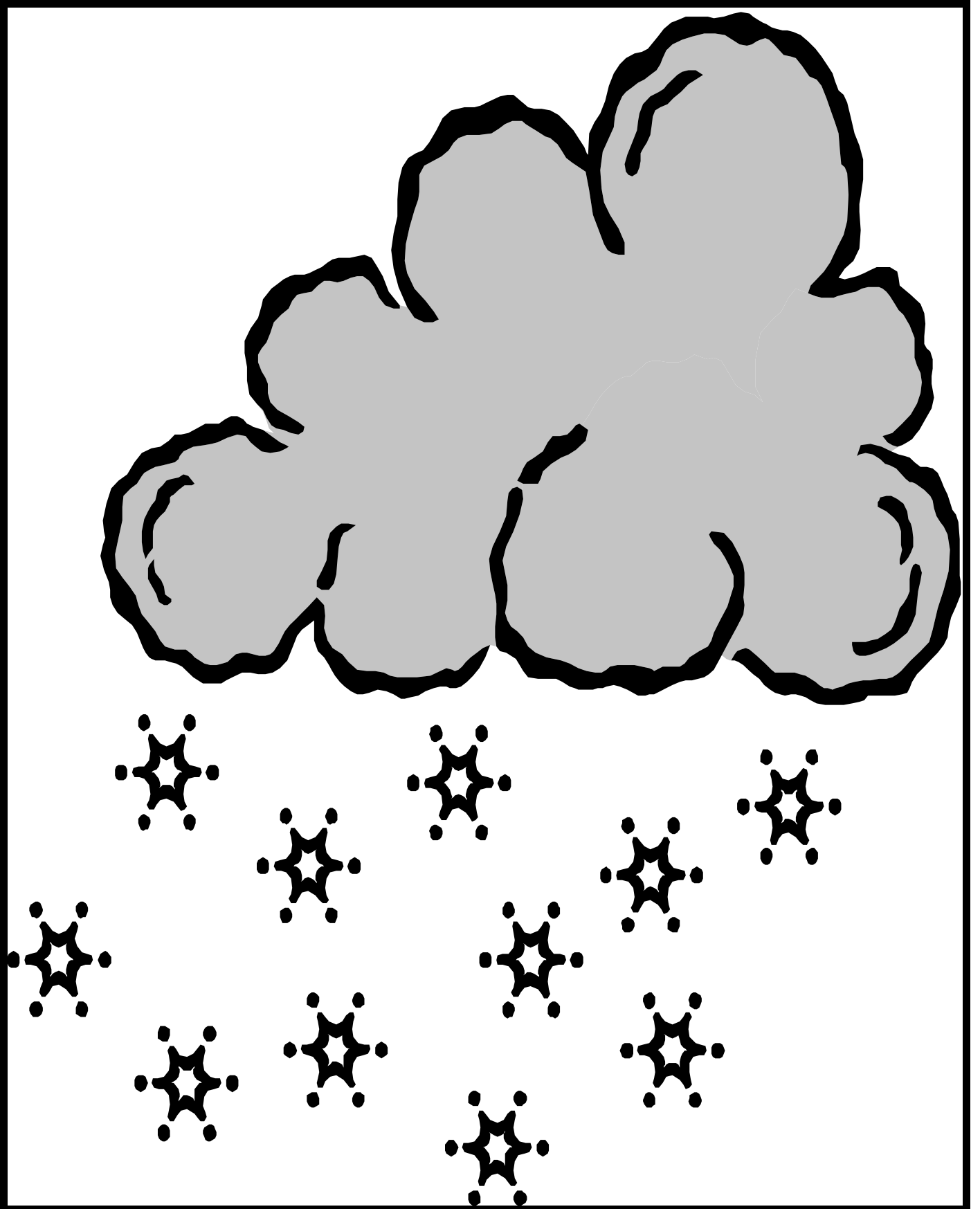
keeps farm
animals dry
and warm

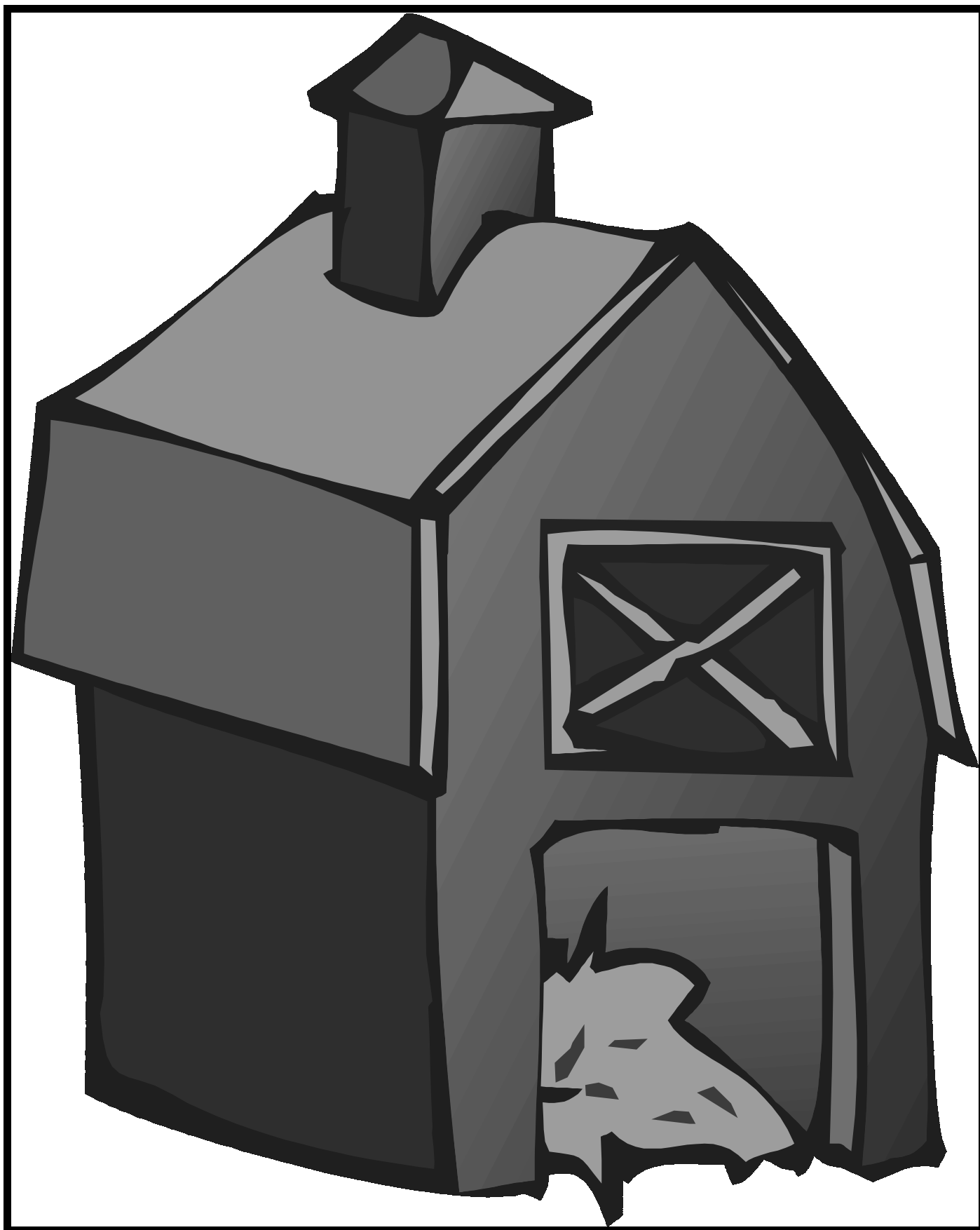
shows
who is
ruler

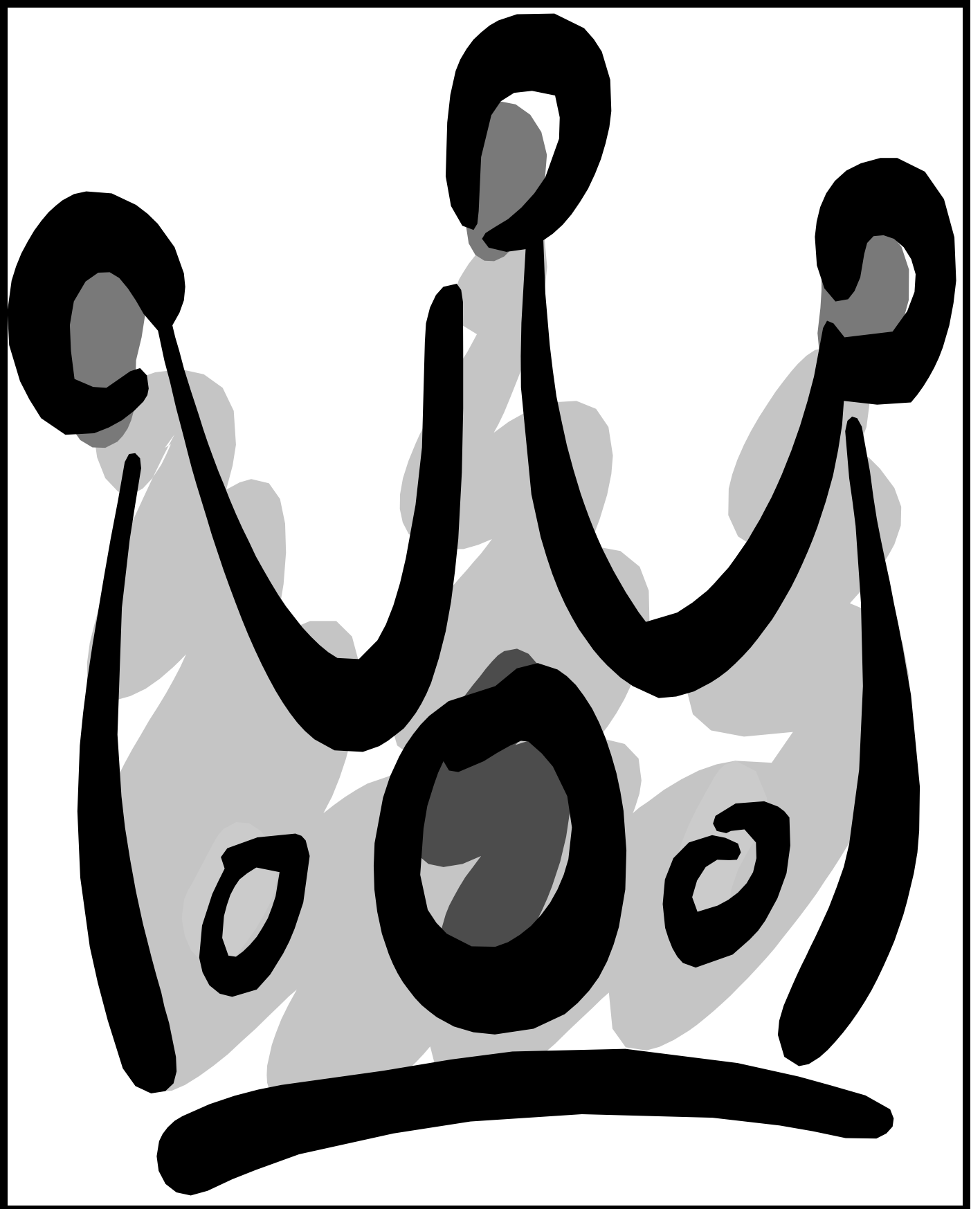
stops a
boat from
drifting off

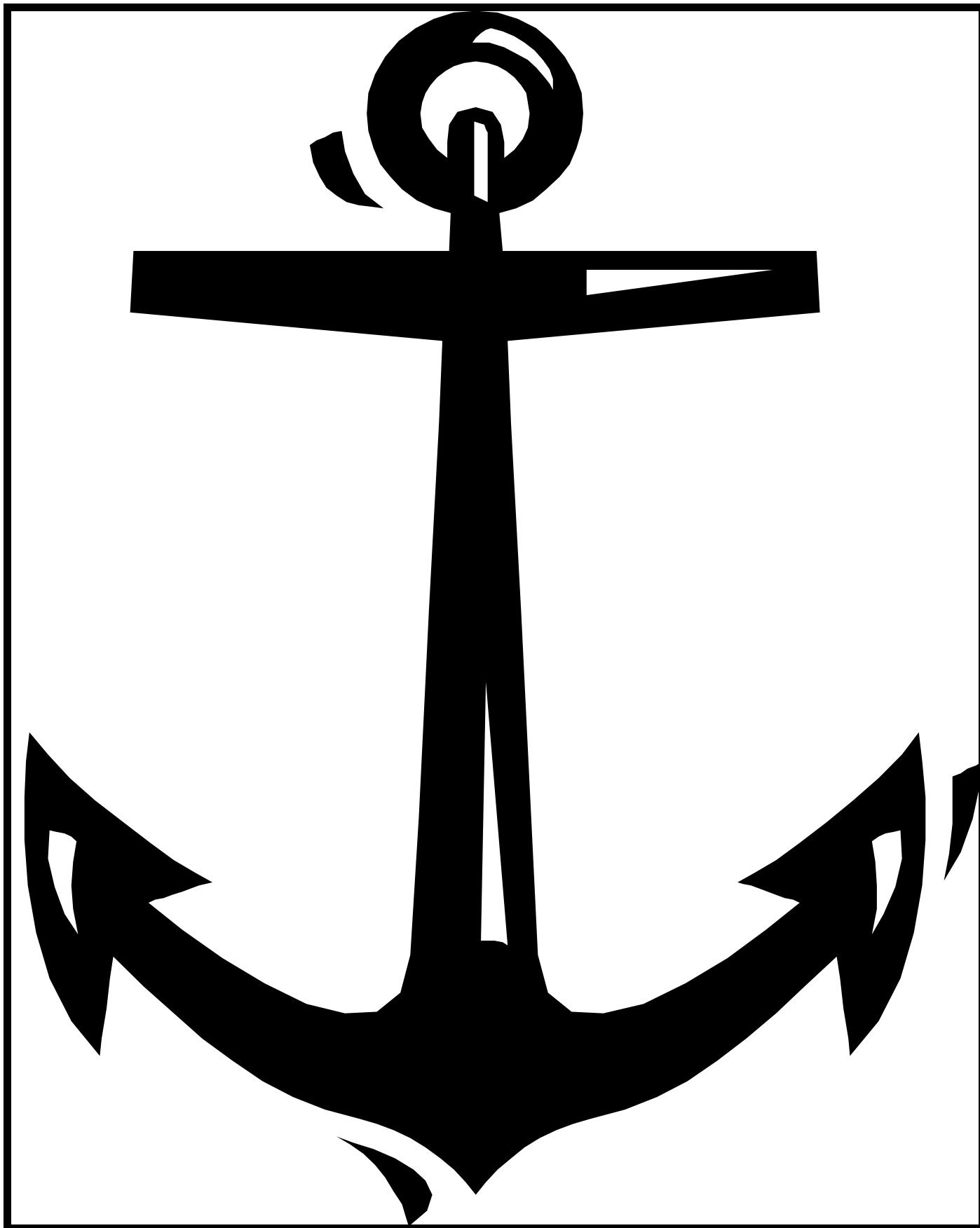
travels
on
water

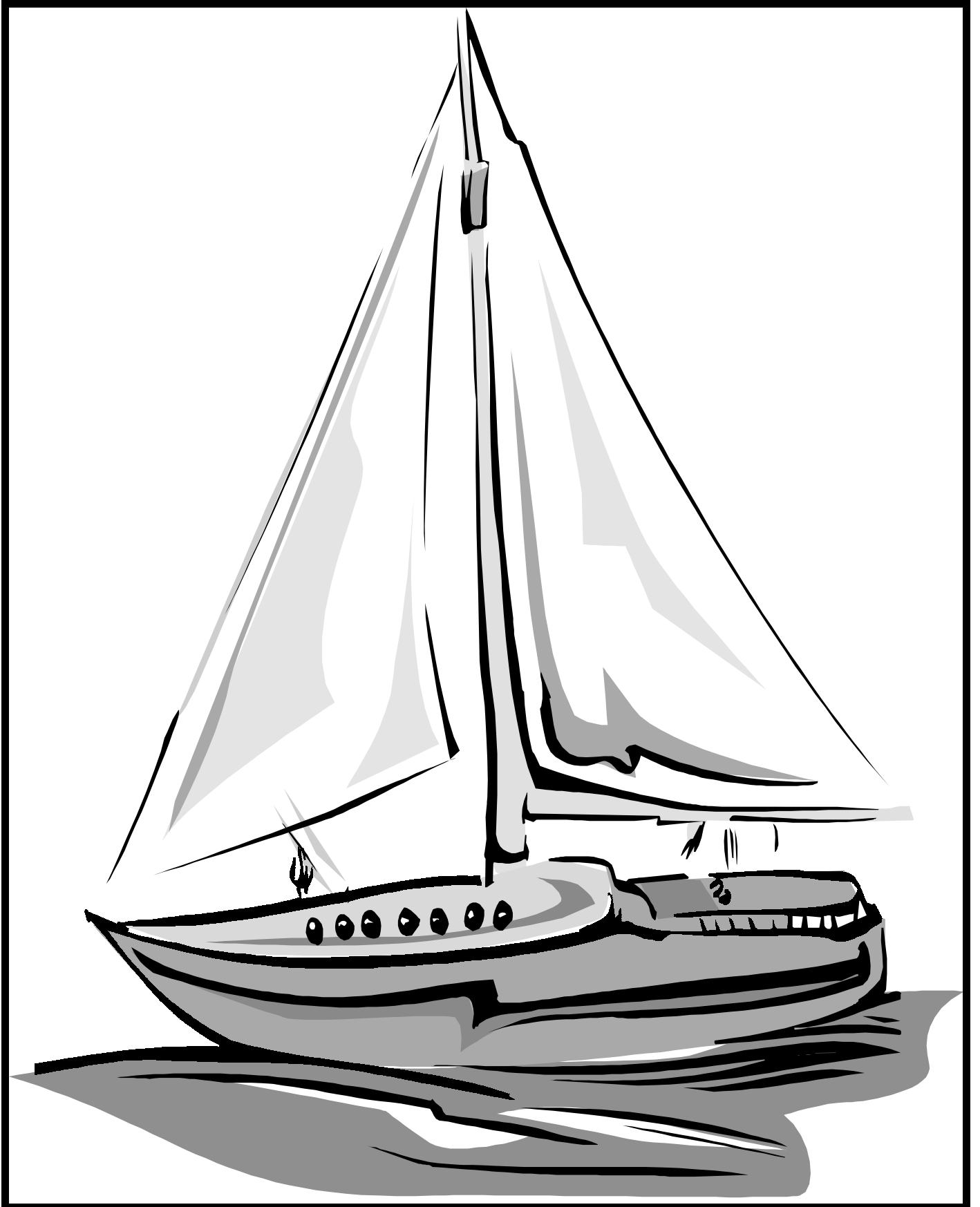
keeps
idols
inside

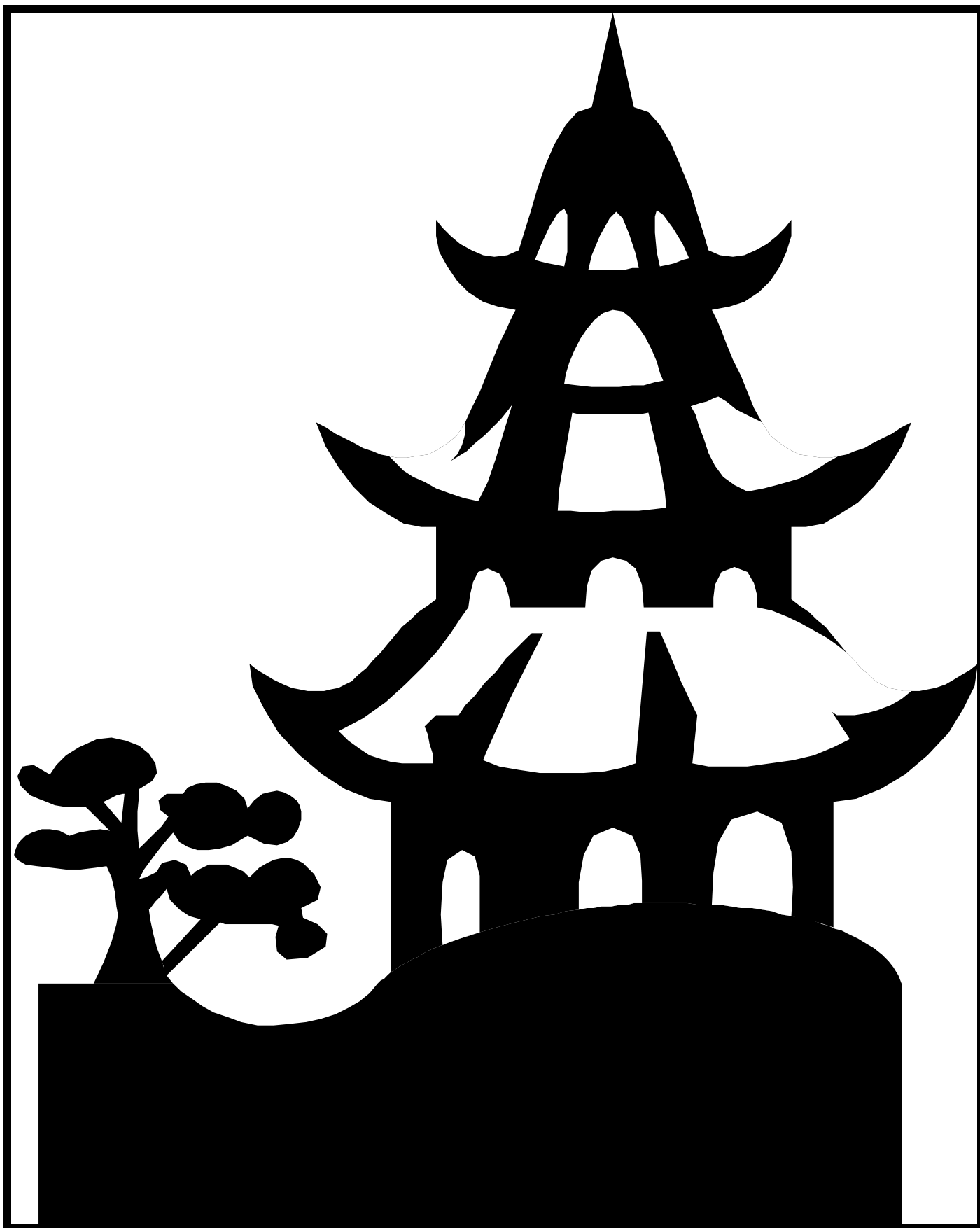












white

cold

and flaky

a wooden

farm

building

a golden
head-
piece

a heavy

metal

hook

vessel

with

oars, sail

or engine

a place
to
worship
idols

falls
from
the sky
in winter

keeps farm

animals dry

and warm

shows

who is

ruler

stops a

boat from

drifting off

travels

on

water

keeps

idols

inside

Pass the Package

Description: a game in which a package is passed around and unwrapped

Aim: to illustrate our responsibility to pass the good news of Jesus on to others

Audience: children grades 1-6, any size group

Time: 15 minutes

Equipment: wrapping paper, candy, cardstock, Bible, music (live or taped)

Scripture to Study:
1 Timothy 6:18,
Romans 6:23, John
8:36, 10:10, 12:46



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Leader's Instructions:

1. In advance, wrap a Bible in several sheets of heavy wrapping paper. In each of the layers put enough individually wrapped candy so that there is at least one piece for each participant. Also include one of the Bible verses written on a piece of cardstock. The outside layer should have 1 Timothy 6:18, the next layer, Romans 6:23, etc.
2. Tell the children to sit in a circle. Explain that when the music starts, they must pass the package around the room.
3. Round 1 - Start the music and let it play while the package is passed around the circle.
4. Stop the music.
5. Whoever has the package when the music stops opens one layer, discovering the candy and Bible verse. Make sure everyone sees all the pieces of candy he/she collects. Exclaim, "Oh, look at you! You've been blessed with a *lot* of candy! Do you have pockets big enough to hold all that?"
6. At this point, the other children should start protesting: "Hey, I want some!" "She ought to share!" "Why does he get all the candy?" Stop now and discuss what Jesus would do and what He tells us to do.
7. Ask the package holder to read 1 Timothy 6:18 from the card he unwrapped. Ask the kids what this verse tells rich people to do? (*It tells those who are rich in this world's goods that they should share. Does that include candy? Yes, everything.*)
8. Make sure the candy gets shared evenly and begin again.
9. Round 2 - when the music stops, review. Ask, "When God blesses you with something, what should you do?" Everyone should know now that the 'blessed one' is supposed to share the candy.
10. Have the package holder read Romans 6:23 from the card. Tell the children, "Candy is one gift. What is another gift? A bigger, more important, life-changing gift talked about in this verse?" (*Eternal life.*)
11. Repeat this pattern with as many layers as you like. Choose from these verses: John 12:46, 10:10, 8:36. Keep going until you've unwrapped all the layers and reached the Bible inside. Use either an English Bible or one in a foreign language. See *Helpful Hints*, page 3.
12. Use the following Discussion and Application section to drive home your point.

Discussion and Application:

Candy: Everyone likes candy! If your friends have candy, you want them to share it with you. How did you feel when the person who opened the package didn't share and pass the candy around?

Verses: Three of the verses hidden in the package were from the Gospel of John, one of the books of the Bible. The word 'gospel' means 'good news'. The book that John wrote is called a gospel because it tells us the good news that Jesus came to

- set us free
- give us life in all its fullness
- lead us out of darkness into light.

The person who opened the package shared the candy and the Bible verse so that everyone could have 2 gifts: God's Word and candy. Now, which one will last longer? Which one is more important? That's right. The Bible.

Bible: The Bible is the whole of God's message of good news to us. In this game you were passing a Bible around to each other. Even though you didn't know that's what it was until the very end, everyone was included in the game and everyone had the same chance of being the one to open the package when the music stopped. But that's not how it is in real life. Did you know that not everyone in the world has the Bible? Why is that? *Have the children respond. Answers could include,*

- *Some people can't afford one.*
- *Some people don't have it in a language they understand.*
- *Some people can't read.*
- *Some people have never even heard of the Bible.*

There are many people in the world who don't know God's good news and that's because it hasn't always been passed on by those who do have it. How about you? What can you do to pass the Good News on to someone else? *Suggestions might include:*

- *Tell your friends and family the good news of Jesus Christ.*
 - *Help missionaries tell the good news to people far away.*
- (See "Projects to Do," another *Bright Ideas!* activity page from www.wycliffe.ca/resources/children_ministry_brightIdeas.html.)

Notes:

Notes:

Bible Verses:

- “Command them (those who are rich) to . . . be generous and willing to share.” 1 Timothy 6:18
- “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23
- “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” John 8:36
- “. . . I have come that they might have life, and have it to the full.” John 10:10
- “I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.” John 12:46

Helpful Hints:

- Make sure that there is enough candy for everyone to have one piece on every round.
- Add blank layers of wrapping paper to make the game last longer.
- In a large meeting you could use boxes for each layer, decorated with wrapping paper.
- If available, use a Bible in a foreign language and verses in different languages, to illustrate the need for Bible translation. When they try to read a verse—surprise! They need a Bible in their own language or it makes no sense. After all, a Bible you can not read is not good news at all!

Ideas for Use: This activity works well with children in almost any setting including:

- Sunday school classes and family services
- In Christian school assemblies or classes
- With a wide range of ages together, but if there are very young children present, make sure there are older ones to help them read the verses

Prayer Cube

Description:

a craft that teaches children how to pray for workers overseas

Aim: to stimulate prayer for God's work around the world

Audience: children grades 1-4, any size group

Time: 25-30 minutes.

Equipment:

scissors, gluesticks, copies of prayer cube pattern from master, optional: colored markers

Scripture to Study:

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Bright Ideas!

Leader's Instructions:**Pre-class Preparations:**

1. Decide if you'll focus on a single person, family, or team; national or foreign workers; someone sent out from the church who is known to the children, or someone no one knows.
2. Be ready to explain where they live, with whom they work, and most importantly why they are working in another country. If you know them personally, tell a true story to illustrate what they are like. Make them real. Use recent prayer letters, photos, video clips, and maps to paint a full picture and capture the children's imagination.
3. Photocopy a prayer cube pattern onto cardstock for each student. If color copies are not an option, have the children color the backgrounds of the pictures with colored markers.
4. Make up one prayer cube to show the finished product.

Class Time:

1. Hand out to each child: one prayer cube pattern page, a pair of scissors and one gluestick (optional: colored markers, pencil)
2. Show the children your completed cube and explain these steps to make their own:
 - *Write your name in the bottom right square.
 - *Optional: Color the white space of each cube.
 - *Cut out the pattern around the outer, solid lines.
 - *Fold along all the dotted lines.
 - *Put glue on each tab that says "*glue*".
 - *Form the paper into a cube with tabs on the *inside*.
 - *Leave the cube to dry. (One bit of tape may help on the last tab.)
3. Divide into small groups of 3-4 people each, and introduce the overseas worker/s you've chosen. (See Pre-class Preparation.)
4. Look up Ephesians 6:18,19 together and have someone read it out loud. Discuss briefly.
5. Use the Introduction to Prayer below to lead children into a fun and educational time of prayer.

Introduction to Prayer

(Have your prayer cube in hand.) When you're young, you can't

often go overseas, but you can still be involved in reaching people for Jesus who live far away by praying. Christians who share the good news with people in other countries need prayer. That's something you can do right now. And it's a powerful way to join God's messengers, because God answers prayer!

Sometimes it's difficult to know what to pray for. Why? Life can be very different in other countries. Often you don't know the people for whom you're praying. Sometimes your brain just refuses to come up with the things for which to pray. That's where your prayer cube can help. On each side of the cube is a different picture. Each picture reminds you of something different for which to pray.

Let's try using the prayer cube. This is what to do:

(Demonstrate steps for the children.)

- One person rolls the cube and waits to see what picture comes up on top.
- That person prays out loud, using the picture to help him/her think of things for which to pray.
- Then the next person rolls the cube and prays, and so on until everyone has had a chance, or until all the sides have turned up.

Your prayers can be very simple and short. And remember that there's nothing magic about rolling the prayer cube. It just helps you to use your imagination and to think. For instance, why do you think it is important to pray that people will make new friends in new places? *(It's important to be friends with local people overseas so that when they tell people about Jesus, they will listen to the message about how to become a child of God.)*

Now let children pray in small groups with their very own cubes.

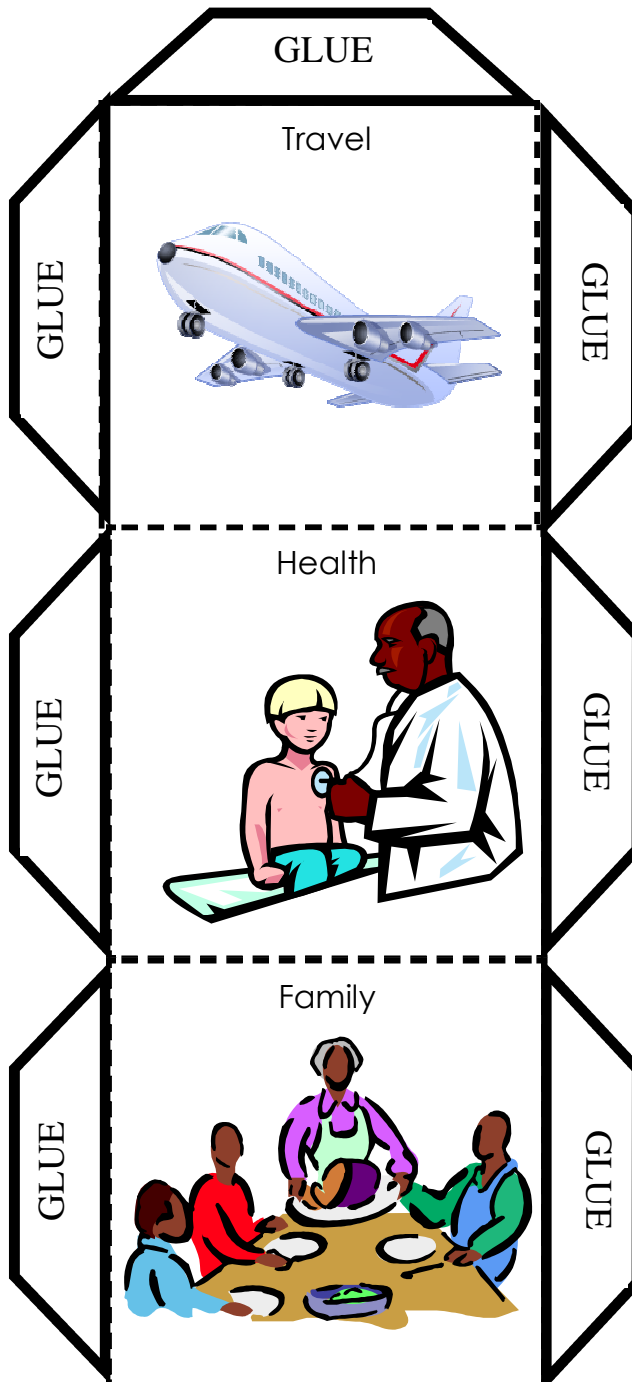
After class:

Encourage children to take their prayer cubes home and use them to pray regularly for a person or team they know, or have just gotten to know. Mom, Dad and the whole family can enjoy after-dinner prayer time with the amazing, world-changing prayer cube. Remember, prayer really does change things!

Notes:

Instructions:

1. Write your name in the team square. You're on the prayer team now!
2. Optional with black and white cubes: Color the white space of each square.
3. Cut on outer solid lines.
4. Fold on dotted lines.
5. Apply glue to tabs and form into a cube, with glue tabs *inside*.
6. You could even paste a picture of a family you know on the family square.
7. Roll the cube and pray for whatever comes up!



Prayer Games

Description:

fun ways to pray in an ice-breaker way, plus a work page

Aim: to pray for Bibleless people in a kid-friendly manner

Audience: Pre-school through high school, depending on their coolness factor, any size group

Time: various

Equipment: The book, *From Akebu to Zapotec*, available from Wycliffe, plus various items listed

Scripture to Study: Colossians 4:2-4;



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Leader's Instructions:

1. Use cards from the game From Akebu to Zapotec Memory Card Game or make your own color, or black and white, copies of pages from the book *From Akebu to Zapotec**, both available from Wycliffe. Shrink pages down by 50 percent. Copy or attach items for prayer from page five on the back of each copy. For extra durability, laminate them and use repeatedly for years to come as you 'pray without ceasing' for Bibleless people groups.

*or from the *Children's Prayer Journal* downloadable from www.wycliffe.ca/resources/children_ministry_ready.html

2. To heighten excitement about praying for Bibleless people on a regular basis, use a different prayer game each week. Or, throw a big Prayer Party, combining several of the games and refreshments, for a one-time prayer emphasis. Warning: it's so much fun to pray this way, children are likely to beg to play these games regularly after the party!

Prayer Sardines

Like the game *Sardines*:

- One person (or several if you have a large group), is given a *From Akebu to Zapotec* card (as in point one above) and sent out to hide.
- The rest of the group then tries to find the hidden person/s. Those who find the card-holder must hide there, too, and pack the hiding space like sardines in a can.
- Call time after several minutes and let the praying begin for the group on the page. This works well in a house or outside in good weather (with well-defined boundaries). See items for prayer on page five.

Musical Chairs Prayer

Similar to musical chairs:

- In plain view, tape one prayer card to the back of each chair. Also tape one out of sight underneath the seat, and a third one hidden behind the back cushion of each chair.
- Play ethnically different music, Christian music, or a jungle sounds tape while the children walk around the chairs. When the music stops, each person kneels down and prays for one minute for the people group they see on the back cushion of their chair. See items for prayer on page five.

- Turn those cards in and start the music again. When the music stops the second and third time, tell the children to find the other cards hidden somewhere on the chair. Pray for what's on each card and then count how many are in the basket. You'll be amazed at how many Bibleless groups you've prayed for in just a few minutes!
- Remind the children that prayer changes things. It is often said that "children can advance God's work all over the world," and that's just what they're doing!

Cake Walk the World

- On the floor, let students make a giant world map, copying the one provided on the last page of the book *From Akebu to Zapotec*. Use rope or string for the outline, or color on giant pieces of butcher paper. Chalk works great on a parking lots.
- Position the laminated cards on the map as designated on the book's map.
- Begin exotic music, jungle sounds tape, or a Christian music tape and have the children move from one letter to the next, like in a cake walk, around the world.
- When the music stops, each person hurries to the nearest card, kneels and prays for one minute for that Bibleless people group. Several may end up sharing one card. That's O.K., too. Kneeling helps to read the card, and promotes a different prayer posture! See items for prayer on page five.
- For variation, play a marching song and let children carry flags they've made representing different countries. Then stop to pray.

Prayer Balloons

- Choose several Bibleless people groups from the book *From Akebu to Zapotec*. Cut small slips of paper and write one people group name on each. Roll the paper up and push one into each balloon before blowing it up.
- Form children into small or large circles and 'bob' a balloon out to someone. Or toss several out at once! No balloon is to touch the floor and no one is to hold a balloon. Rather, they must keep balloons in the air with 'volleyball-like' taps.
- After 30 seconds, blow the whistle or call, "Stop." Now, the nearest person catches the balloon and holds it.
- Instruct balloon-holders to sit on the balloons to pop** them and

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retrieve the slip of paper. Read about that group from the book and pray. See prayer items on page five. If you've used several balloons, the children can form several small prayer groups. With only one balloon, the group at large can pray for one people group. ***Supervision recommended to prevent eye injury!*

- Repeat as long as you're still having fun!

Seek and Pray

- Hide, or post in plain view, several of the Bibleless people cards around the area you choose: a room, building or outside play area. Clearly number each card: 1, 2, 3, etc.
- Divide the children into the same number of groups as the cards you've chosen. Actually it is helpful to have one or two extra people group cards than groups of children, since some groups may pray faster than others.
- Assign each group of children a number: 1, 2, 3, etc. Send them off to find their corresponding Bibleless people prayer card. Instruct them to pray as a group for those people.
- After one minute, they should return to you for another number and be off to search for it and pray.
- Continue for 5-10 minutes, as you like. Then come together and count how many people you have prayed for in a short few minutes! This is time well spent because, after all, God answers prayer. See prayer items on page five.

Mingle-Huddle

Another way to get young people into groups to pray:

- Divide into two groups and line up evenly along opposite sides of the room.
- When the music starts, everyone walks straight across to the opposite side of the room and back. Continue going back and forth, between the lines of walkers until the music stops.
- When the music stops, the leader calls out a number and everyone must scurry to get into a group of that size. The leader calls out the name of a Bibleless people group and everyone prays in their small groups for one minute. See prayer items on page five.
- Resume walking and calling out other numbers for as long as all are having fun.

Praying from *Akebu to Zapotec*

Notes:

It is said that “children can advance God’s work all over the world.” Do you believe it? Well, it’s true!

We Christians, young or old, enter into real spiritual struggles on behalf of Bibleless people when we pray. Satan does not want these people to have the Good News of Jesus Christ. He does not want them to move out of his dark kingdom into the Kingdom of Light. Here are just a few points to get you started:

- Ask God to break Satan’s power over people’s minds.
- Pray for God to prepare translation teams to do the work. They may be foreigners (like us), members of the people group for whom you are praying or a combination of both! Your prayers can include asking God to call translators; supply finances, health and government approval; protect the translation project from Satan’s attacks; for peace in the country; for acceptance by leaders; for experiences that train translation teams to work well with people of other cultures; and much more!
- Ask God to prepare the translators with the proper schooling and life experiences ahead of time, so they can translate well.
- Ask God to give people a hunger and thirst to read His Word in their own language.
- Pray that God will speak to the hearts of local people who listen to early drafts of the translation. They are often the first ones to trust Jesus as their Savior and Lord!
- Ask God what He wants YOU to do! *“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”* Ephesians 2:10, NIV

If time allows, let students do the following matching page to reinforce a few ways to pray for Bibleless people.

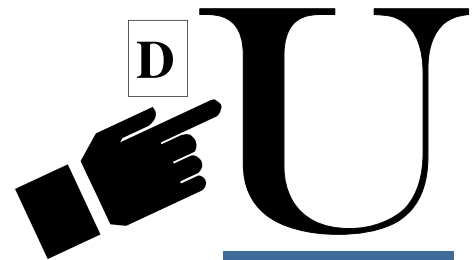
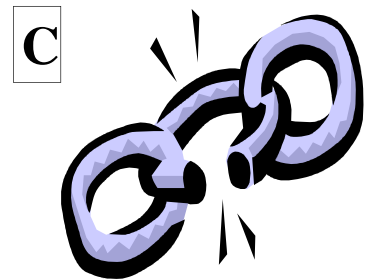
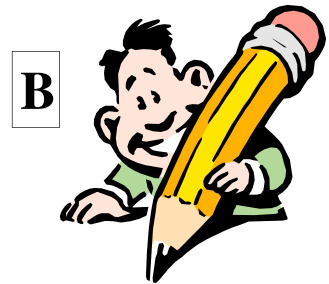
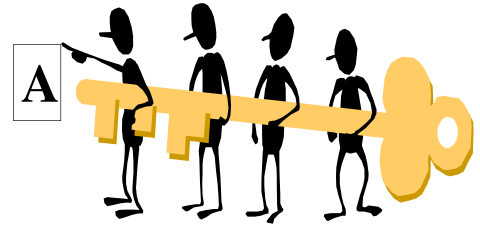
(Works best with grades 1-4.)

ANSWER KEY: 1C, 2B, 3A, 4E, 5F, 6D

Praying for Bibleless People Groups

Draw lines to connect words with pictures

1. Ask God to break Satan's power over people's hearts and minds.
2. Ask God to prepare translators with proper schooling and life experiences so they can translate well. (That is, to write the Bible in another language.)
3. Ask God to prepare translation teams to work together well. No one can do it alone!
4. Ask God to give people a hunger and thirst to read His Word in their own language. What if no one wanted to read the Bible when it was all done?
5. Pray that God will speak to the hearts of local people who listen to early drafts of the translation. They are often the first ones to trust Jesus as their Savior and Lord!
6. Ask God what He wants YOU to do! Ephesians 2:10



Projects To Do

Description:

projects to do right now related to God's work around the world

Aim: to provide opportunities for active involvement with God's global plan, more than just dropping an offering in the plate

Audience: children through adults

Time: various

Equipment: as stated in each

Scripture to Study:



www.wycliffe.org
phone: 1-800-WYCLIFFE
1-800-992-5433

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Wycliffe Bible Translators

1. Consider “adopting” one of your church’s overseas staff members.

- This website gives you thirteen ways you can bless your missionaries without even paying for postage:
www.desiringgod.org/blog/posts/13-ways-to-bless-missionaries-without-paying-for-postage
- Ask a family to speak to your class. They might bring some cool artifacts from around the world. Invite them to your home for dinner! Could you meet special needs? (Maybe they won't have winter clothing if coming home from several years in the tropics. Maybe they need a car, a home, pots and pans? You might even be able to help them move into their house, or set up their pantry!)

2. Tour a facility that sends people overseas to serve the Lord.

You could make plans to stop by while on vacation. For an extra special treat, call to schedule a tour of these exciting sites especially designed to educate, entertain and inspire. Visit their websites if you prefer 'touring' from home or school!

You can arrange for a children's tour of the **Wycliffe Canada headquarters** in Calgary, Alberta

Location: Wycliffe Canada

4316—10 Street NE

Calgary, Alberta T2E 6K3

Telephone: 1-800-463-1143

Email: childrens_ministry@wycliffe.ca

At the **Wycliffe Discovery Center** in Orlando Florida you will encounter people, languages, and cultures you've never seen before. It's about the art and science of translation. It's about how God's Word carries hope around the world to people in their own language. It's an interactive, cultural adventure! Discover how God preserved and spread the Bible throughout the world and throughout history.

Location: Wycliffe Bible Translators

11221 John Wycliffe Blvd.

Orlando Florida 32832

phone: 407-852-3600 or 1-800-WYCLIFFE (1-800-992-5433)

ask for the Discovery Center tour director
Email: wordspring_orlando@wycliffe.org
Website: www.wycliffe.org/wordspring/

The International Museum of Cultures (IMC) is a unique cultural anthropology museum, located in Southwest Dallas that features contemporary peoples from around the world. The gallery exhibits include interactive videos from Africa, Southeast Asia, Papua New Guinea, China, Mexico and Native America, in addition to an extensive drum exhibit accompanied by video programming.

Location:

7500 W. Camp Wisdom Rd
Dallas, TX 75236-5699
Phone (972)-708-7406
Email: Info@internationalmuseumofcultures.org
Website: www.internationalmuseumofcultures.org/home.htm/

The Museum of the Alphabet traces the history of alphabets and other writing systems. Paintings, displays and artifacts explore ancient and modern alphabet makers, as well as writing systems for Braille, mathematics and music. A phoneme exhibit illustrates how modern alphabet makers discover the sounds in unwritten languages. And guests can have their names printed in non-Roman scripts at a specialized computer display.

The Mexico-Cárdenas Museum displays artifacts, costumes, photographs and folk art that illustrate early Bible translation and cross-cultural work in Mexico. The museum also highlights Lázaro Cárdenas, Mexico's president from 1934–1940. Cárdenas helped make it possible for the Summer Institute of Linguistics (now SIL International) to study language groups in Mexico.

Location of both of these museums:

JAARS Center
7405 Jaars Road
Waxhaw NC 28173-7004
(704)-843-6066
E-mail: help_desk_jaars@sil.org
Websites: www.jaars.org/museum/alphabet/index.htm/ and
www.jaars.org/getinvolved/visit/museums/

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3. Pray for a Bibleless people group.

If you know a missionary who is part of a team translating the Bible for people who still wait for it, start praying for those people and the translation process until it is complete. If you don't already know about a Bibleless people group, you can find out about one at the link below. Just click on the continent you're interested in on the world map, choose a country, and then explore the languages spoken there to find a Bibleless one to pray for: www.thewordislife.net/

4. Be a home along the way.

Wycliffe workers often drive across the country, speaking to churches or traveling to see family. If you add your name to the Hospitality Roster, Wycliffe workers will contact you in advance if they are in need of overnight accommodations. Write to the address below, and request an application to be on the Hospitality Roster. In doing so, you will not only minister to Wycliffe workers by saving them expensive motel bills and meals out, you will get to hear first-hand accounts of the exciting things God is doing around the world!

Wycliffe Canada Hospitality Roster
4316—10 Street NE
Calgary, Alberta T2E 6K3
Telephone: 1-800-463-1143)
Email: hospitality_roster@wycliffe.ca

5. Create a quilt.

God's servants coming home from tropical climates often need warm bedding. Even those from cold climates often just need something new and pretty! Team up a children's class with ladies in the church for a cross-generational mission project.

Use fabric tracing paper to trace outlines from Bible story color books onto 12-inch blocks of muslin. Each child can color in the picture with permanent markers, or fabric paints, even adding their names if they like. Now the ladies take over and sew all the blocks together, add batting and a few quilting stitches. There you

have it! A warm winter quilt from your church to the global staff family of your choice. Several classes want to participate? How about a quilt for each member of the family?

7. Novel Ideas for Helping Children Love to Pray.

See “Prayer Games”, another *Bright Ideas!* activity available at www.wycliffe.ca/resources/children_ministry_brightIdeas.html or go to www.wycliffe.ca/resources/children_ministry_ready.html where you will find several fun, interactive lessons to help children connect with Bible translation around the world through prayer.

8. Service-Learning Projects.

Learn about Senegal while helping children in Senegal learn to read their own language or color Scripture posters in one of three Ugandan languages to send to children learning to read and write in their own language at www.wycliffe.ca/resources/children_ministry_learning.html

Notes:

Tug of War

Description: a team contest with audience participation

Aim: to demonstrate difficulties of Bible translation, the need for a team, and God's power

Audience: grades 1-6, 10 or more kids

Time: 10-15 min.

Equipment: a rope and costuming (Signs can replace costumes.)

Scriptures to Study:
2 Chronicles 32:7-8
Jeremiah 17:5-8
1 Samuel 17:45-47
Galatians 6:12



www.wycliffe.ca
phone: 1-800-463-1143
Wycliffe Canada

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Leader's Instructions:

1. Stretch a rope on the floor at the front of the room. (No one touches it yet.) Ask a volunteer to stand at one end of the rope and play the part of an overseas worker. Perhaps there is a child who thinks God may be calling him or her to serve God overseas. (Dress this volunteer in pith helmet, canteen, or khaki jacket with a Bible, or just a sign to hold that says "God's ambassador".)
Ask audience what challenges/difficulties the overseas worker will face. As they think of some of these below, choose a slightly *larger* child to represent each difficulty. Have each "difficulty" take his or her place along the rope to form an opposing team for tug of war. Give each an appropriate prop or sound effect:
 - ◆ **learning a new language** (wax lips from toy store or stuff mouth with large marshmallow and recite John 3:16)
 - ◆ **money** (baseball cap with dollars taped on and blowing around)
 - ◆ **diseases** (balance an ice pack on this child's head)
 - ◆ **travel to remote areas** (put a heavy backpack on this child's back)
 - ◆ **rebel uprisings and wars** (camouflage clothing, play rifle like an empty super-soaker, gauze wrap head bandage)
 - ◆ **fitting into a new culture's way of dressing and behaving** (ethnic dress of your choosing)
 - ◆ **lions & tigers & bears** (stuffed vicious creature or roar)
 - ◆ **spiritual warfare** may or may not come up (scary costume, mask or suit of armor)
2. Now ask the audience if the overseas worker can win. "No way!", they'll likely shout. Still, let the two teams play tug of war. The overseas worker will easily be pulled over the line. Ask audience what the overseas worker needs. Yes! Some help—a team of his own. Ask what kind of person he needs, for instance, for the problem of learning a new language?
3. Call up volunteers for each of the following. Make sure to choose slightly *smaller or weaker* members for this team. (You are stacking the deck so the overseas worker's team still can not win.)
 - ◆ **language school teacher** (this child repeats "uno, dos, tres" endlessly, hopefully without drowning you out)
 - ◆ **financial supporter/s** (purse, checkbook, piggy bank)
 - ◆ **medical worker** (stethoscope, lab coat, or needleless syringe!!!)
 - ◆ **2 or more prayer partners** (hands clasped to pray, unless pulling)
 - ◆ **pilot** (pilot wings pin, dark glasses, Red Baron scarf, captain's hat)
4. Play tug of war again and the overseas worker's team still loses. Suggest that problems overseas are just *too big!* Even with one

more person on his team, the missionary still could not win. Maybe it's hopeless? Someone in the audience should challenge you on that point. If not, ask them if anything is too difficult for God.

5. Declare, "What the overseas worker needs is *power!*" From the back, call your big, strong man who has been hiding the sign (included) around his neck all this time. As he strides to the front, flexing his muscles, the children will see "**Holy Spirit**" written in bold letters.
6. Now play tug of war again and the overseas worker's team wins. Applause!

Discussion and Application:

1. Ask, "Can God's servant overseas get the job done all by himself?" *Emphasize that overseas workers need a team to get the job done.*
2. Ask, "Can people, if they're a big enough team, get the job done by themselves?" *No, we need the Holy Spirit. God's power puts us on the winning side even when the problems are too big!*
3. Ask the kids which of these jobs they could do right now on the '*(fill in the blank with the name of an overseas worker)* Team'. Children may be too young to be pilots, nurses, or teachers just yet. But they can pray for overseas workers supported by their church, give financially, or write letters to keep them from being homesick. They *can* be part of the team right now!
4. Encourage them to discuss this in class with their teachers and form a plan of action. Kids really want to *act on behalf of overseas workers*, instead of just being entertained. Give them a chance to join an overseas worker's team. (See "Projects to Do", another *Bright Ideas!* lesson available at www.wycliffe.ca/resources/children_ministry_brightIdeas.html.)

Notes:



Closing Song: "Jesus Loves Me" (We are weak, but He is strong!)

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts." Zechariah 4:6

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